

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 185682
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 H-02 SSM-05 SAA-01 ICAE-00
SSO-00 SS-15 NSCE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 /041 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS:DP
APPROVED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND
PA/PRESS - MR. CARTER
H - MR. FLATEN
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI - MR. KORN
NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER
NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM

-----023924 220113Z /62

O 220039Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 185682

CINCEUR FOR POLAD; TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - JULY 21, 1978

1. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE
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EXCERPTS FROM DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING FOR JULY 21. FYI
ONLY, OFFICER PRESENT TODAY WAS HODDING CARTER.

Q. HODDING, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER ON THE ITINERARY
FOR THE SECRETARY?

A. I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER THAN THE REITERATION OF

WHAT I SAID FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY -- WHICH IS, IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. I WOULD ONLY NOTE THE FACT OF THE ASEAN CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON BEGINNING ON AUGUST 3. HE WILL OBVIOUSLY PARTICIPATE IN THAT. THEREAFTER, I DON'T HAVE A DEFINITE TIME FOR YOU.

Q. IS THERE ANY CONCERN THAT THE NEXT MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST MAY NOT TAKE PLACE?

A. I THINK THAT THE WORDS THE SECRETARY HAS USED ALL ALONG --AND I WOULD REPEAT--ARE "EXPECT" AND "ANTICIPATE."

I NOTE THERE ARE ANY NUMBER OF STORIES WHICH SEEM TO ME TO RUN THE GAMUT ON THIS, AND I SIMPLY THINK THE SECRETARY FULLY EXPECTS THAT IT WILL TAKE PLACE.

Q. WHAT IS THE TIME FRAME HE PLANS TO BE THERE?

A. MY PROBLEM IS I DON'T HAVE AN EXACT DEPARTURE TIME. A WEEK TO TEN DAYS. THIS WHOLE THING STILL DEPENDS ON CONVERSATIONS IN THE CABINET IN ISRAEL, CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. SADAT BY MR. KAMEL AND THE LIKES.

Q. ARE WE AWARE EITHER FROM LEADS OR OTHERWISE OF ANY CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT TO A LIMITED PULL-BACK INVOLVING MORE PERHAPS THAN JUST EL UNCLASSIFIED

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ARISH AS A GESTURE BEFORE THE TALKS EVEN BEGIN?

A. I HAVE SEEN THOSE STORIES, AND I CAN ONLY TELL YOU THAT I AM NOT AWARE OF SUCH A STEP BEING IMMINENT.

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NNN

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